Local Government Mandate Statement Kentucky Legislative Research Commission 2021 Regular Session

Part I: Measure Information

Bill Request #: 1526			
Bill #: HB 409			
Document ID #: 320	07		
Bill Subject/Title: AN ACT proposing to amend Section 145 of the Constitution of Kentucky relating to persons entitled to vote.			
Sponsor: Representative Pamela Stevenson			
Unit of Government:		X County	X Urban-County Unified Local
	X Charter County	X Consolidated Local	X Government
Office(s) Impacted:	County Clerk offices	<u> </u>	
Requirement: X Mandatory Optional			
Effect on Powers & Duties:	Modifies Existing	Adds New El	liminates Existing
Requirement: X Effect on	Mandatory Op	tional	

Part II: Bill Provisions and the Estimated Fiscal Impact Relating to Local Government

HB 409 would propose to amend the Kentucky Constitution by replacing language that prohibits "idiots and insane persons" from voting with language that instead prohibits persons from voting who are adjudicated to be mentally incompetent by a court of competent jurisdiction, with the adjudication not having been set aside.

Per Section 256 of the Kentucky Constitution, proposed constitutional amendments are added to the ballot for the general election in even-numbered years. This amendment would be submitted to the voters in November, 2022.

HB 409 would have a minimal fiscal impact on local governments. Based on information received in early 2020 from Harp Enterprises, a vendor that provides electronic voting machines to almost 100 Kentucky counties, there are additional programming costs associated with adding a new constitutional amendment to the ballot on an already scheduled statewide election. For example, the cost to add a new category to the ballot for

Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, with 286 precincts, was estimated at between \$3,500 and \$4,500, and for Franklin County, with 44 precincts, the cost was estimated at between \$1,700 and \$2,500.

There could be additional costs associated with extra paper (if the ballot language requires additional space) for paper ballots and absentee voting. It has been estimated that the cost of one extra page for a single ballot is \$0.25, depending on the county's printing contract. Therefore, the total cost would depend on the number of paper ballots that would need the extra page. (Fayette County Clerk)

Part III: Differences to Local Government Mandate Statement from Prior Versions

Part II, above, relates to the bill as introduced.

Data Source(s): LRC staff; Harp Enterprises; Fayette County Clerk

Preparer: Robert Jenkins **Reviewer:** KHC **Date:** 2/9/21